



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hatim Allawi
Serial No.: 10/084,839
Filed: 02/26/2002
Entitled: RNA DETECTION ASSAYS

Group No.: 1652
Examiner: C. L. Patterson

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE
ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 21, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 2/22/2005

By: Mary Ellen Weite

Mary Ellen Weite

Mary Ann D. Brown

Dear Sir or Madam:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 21, 2004, with response due on or before December 21, 2004. A petition for a two month extension of time, from December 21, 2004 to February 22, 2005, the first business day following the Federal holiday on February 21, 2005, is included herewith. Also submitted herewith is an Application Data Sheet, clean copies of several previously disclosed references, and a form 1449 listing these references.

In accordance with the procedure for Revised Amendment Practice under 37 C.F.R. §1.121, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.